

# RADIO TV REPORTS, INC.

4701 WILLARD AVENUE, CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20015 656-4068

FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM	Good Morning America	STATION	WJLA TV ABC Network
DATE	April 9, 1981	7:00 AM	CITY Washington, DC
SUBJECT	Outlawing the Identification of U.S. Intelligence Agents		

DAVID HARTMAN: Some years ago, G. Gordon Liddy, convicted Watergate conspirator, suggested that Jack Anderson should be killed for printing information that exposed a United States agent abroad. Jack Anderson denied the charge.

Right now, Congress is considering two bills that would make it a felony to reveal the names of U.S. intelligence agents in the press. Well, this morning we have a Face-off on the question: Should journalists who identify U.S. intelligence agents be prosecuted?

G. Gordon Liddy is with us this morning. He says yes, they should. Morton Halperin is the Executive Director of the Center for National Security Studies. He says no.

Mr. Casey, Director of the CIA, Mr. Halperin, says the publication of names of agents, in his judgment, led -- could have led to the murder of an agent in Greece, and also to attacks on agents in both Jamaica and Mozambique. Why are you opposed to a law that would attempt to stop the publication of agents' names?

MORTON HALPERIN: Well, I don't believe, in any of those cases, there is any evidence that the publication of names in the United States is what caused those attacks.

But more fundamentally, what this law would try to do is make it a crime for journalists to read public sources of information, including information published by the government and put out by the government, and deduce from that who CIA agents may be. There are a number of cases in the past where that information has been very important to the public, exposing corruption, exposing illegal activities, exposing activities of the CIA that